

CLAIM 44. A hood for a hearing protector produced from plastic injection molding comprising:

a first portion formed from injection molding a first plastic material;
a second portion formed from injection molding a second plastic material;
said first and second portions being mutually contiguous to each other to define a single contiguous hood, said first and second portions being separated by a separation line which is visible on said outer surface of said hood, said first portion comprising a central portion and said second portion surrounding said central portion, said first plastic material having different properties in at least one respect from said second plastic material and wherein one of said first or second plastic materials is softer relative to the other of said first or second plastic materials.

CLAIM 45. A hood for a hearing protector comprising:

a first portion formed from a first plastic material;
a second portion formed from a second plastic material;
said first and second portions being mutually contiguous to each other to define a single contiguous hood, said first and second portions being separated by a separation line which is visible on said outer surface of said hood, said first portion comprising a central portion and said second portion surrounding said central portion, said first plastic material having different properties in at least one respect from said second plastic material and wherein one of said first or second plastic materials is softer relative to the other of said first or second plastic materials.

REMARKS

Claims 1-45 remain in this case. New claims 17-45 have been added by this amendment. Applicants request entry of the present amendments. No new matter is being introduced by this Amendment as antecedent support is set forth in the original specification and in the original claims.

Prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' Attorneys at the below-listed telephone number regarding this Second Preliminary Amendment or otherwise regarding

the present application.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Second Preliminary Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicants' attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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